

HOW TO COLLECT SAMPLES FOR DNA TESTING

HAIR SAMPLES

Before collecting hair samples from your animals, you will need the following:

Sample collectors from your preferred lab:

Collectors can be obtained by contacting Angus Australia. A DNA Request Form can be found on the Angus Australia website. Ensure you complete the Request Forms with the relevant identification for each animal. Samples with incomplete details or submitted incorrectly will not be processed.

Cleaning Materials: (comb, brush, water and bucket, paper towels). Ensure the tail switch is clean, this is imperative for the collection of a good sample. A good brushing is usually sufficient to remove excess dirt and manure. Dirty or wet samples will not be accepted by the laboratory and will be returned to the member.

It is important to wash your hands before you take another sample to prevent contamination. A single hair follicle from another animal is enough to contaminate the whole hair sample, rendering it useless.

Also we recommend animals be at least 60 days old before collection. On younger animals, the hair is very fine and tends to break close to the skin leaving the follicles behind.

Collection Procedures: Make sure you read the instructions for collection on the pamphlet carefully before you begin. Remember to only include one animal's hair sample per bag. Alternatively you can collect hair and place into individual paper envelopes. Ensure that you write the animals ident on the envelope for future reference.

SEMEN STRAWS

If you purchased semen from a HBR/RAR/APR bull that does not already have a DNA profile stored with Angus Australia you will need to retain one straw to allow DNA testing.

Semen straws need to be protected from being crushed by mail sorters or rough handling. This can be achieved by slotting the straw between the ridges of cardboard or inside an empty pen.

A full listing of DNA prices can be found in the Angus Australia website:

www.angusaustralia.com.au

QUICK TIPS

- Ensure your hair samples are clean and dry
- Each sample should contain around 30-40 follicles.
- Consider collecting two samples and storing one as a back-up.

Use the Registered Mail Service with Australia Post. This gives us the ability to track down parcels if they are misplaced. This is an extra cost but Australia Post will not look for any lost mail, if it is not registered.

For further information contact:
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